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*On the CHARACTER of ATTICUS.*

During the Visit which I lately paid my Friend *Laco*, at his Country Seat, there was a Conversation a little singular in its Kind, which made me reflect more closely on a serious Subject, than I ever expected to have done in that Retirement. 'Twas the Day which *Laco* sets apart for Hospitality and good Neighbourhood; and several of the Gentlemen round him, had come to dine with him at *L*—. I found the Company better acquainted both with Books and Things, than I hop'd to have met with in that part of the World; and I believe Hounds, Horses, and Foxes, did not take up above an Hour of the whole Visit. The Character

of a certain great Man was pretty freely canvass'd after Dinner, and one of the Company took Notice of a very absurd Compliment (as he termed it) which had been paid him by a noted Author, who, it seems, had distinguish'd him by the Name of *Atticus*. *Laco* made answer, with the Eagerness which is natural to him, that he did not think it any Compliment to be called by the Name of such a Man as *Atticus*. At this, I observed the whole Company a good deal surpriz'd: several of them immediately declared themselves: my Friend was obliged to defend his Opinion: till at last, I thought it best for me to take the Trouble off his Hands, as I knew the Warmth and Zeal with which he always disputes, whenever the Argument is any way connected with Politicks; to which I supposed his Subject would at that Time soon lead him. Accordingly I endeavoured to make good his Side of the Question, but in vain; my Antagonists would not, or could not, at all enter into the Arguments which I advanc'd; and seem'd astonish'd that I allowed so little to theirs. Our Conversation ended as it begun, and left me very seriously reflecting on the Causes which have determined Mankind to so universal a Partiality for *Pomponius Atticus*.

He was born many Years before the Destruction of the *Roman Liberty*; so that his Education was certainly Republican, and the earliest Prejudices of his Mind would inevitably take the same Turn. He once acted with great Spirit and Success for the Constitution of his Country, at a very dangerous Crisis; and at the Head of the *Equestrian Order*, vigorously supported his Friend *Cicero*, thro' all the Difficulties which he had to encounter, in quelling the Conspiracy of *Catiline*; so that he tafted largely of that Applause and Glory, which is the natural Reward of public Virtue. His Rank, his Fortune, and Talents made him very considerable in the Eye of all his Fellow-Citizens; and he lived in a State where it was almost infamous for any Man of Figure to secrete himself from the Publick. These Considerations alone may seem to leave him without Excuse, for the mean-spirited neutral Indolence, which he so obstinately adhered to, thro' all the civil Wars. When two Factions in a free State come to open Violence and Rebellion, 'tis impossible they should both be in the Right; it is very possible they are both in the Wrong. In such a Quarrel, to be in the Wrong, is to be guilty of *High Treason*, and that of the most unpardonable Kind. Every good Citizen will therefore dread, and detest, and to the utmost of his Power endeavour to destroy, that Party which he judges to be the wrong

one,

one, in all civil Wars which divide his Country. On this Account *Solon* very wisely and justly made it criminal for any Man to observe a Neutrality in such a Contest. But *Atticus* was not content with observing a Neutrality ; in which Case, he might have pleaded in his Excuse, that both Sides indeed were wrong, yet for that he had not Power sufficient to raise a third Party in order to prevent the ill Designs of both ; and was therefore honestly prudent in his Resolution to sit still. On the Contrary, he assisted both Parties, and was consequently, self-condemned, without the least Palliation. If *Brutus* was the Patron of the *Roman Liberty*, *Antony* was certainly a Rebel ; and *Atticus*, in supporting him, was involved in the Crime of *Perduellio*, or the worst kind of Treason. On the contrary, if *Antony* was right, *Brutus* was unquestionably a Villain and a Parricide, whom any honest Man would have blush'd to own. But *Atticus* was alike an intimate Friend to both those mortal Enemies : Which even in private Life, no Man will deny to be highly dishonourable ; and which in public Life, and where the Quarrel between them concerns the public Liberty, must be infamous and wicked to a very great Degree. Yet *Atticus*, who had been from his earliest Youth the Associate and Confident of the Republican Leaders, and who now in his old Age, was the Admirer and bosom Friend of the sober, virtuous, Philosophical *Brutus* ; that same *Atticus* bestowed vast Sums upon the profligate abandoned *Antony* ; and endeavoured to protect him and his Creatures, when the Senate had lawfully declared him a public Enemy. On which Occasion I cannot help observing, that if we abstract entirely from the political Side of the Question, and consider it altogether as a Matter in private Life ; yet it discovers in *Atticus* a most ridiculous Ignorance and Weakness in the Choice of his Friends. In spite of innumerable Crimes, which were notorious to every Man in *Rome*, *Atticus* used in his Letters to assure *Brutus*, that *Antony* was a *good Man*. Accordingly, for the Sake of so *good a Man*, in extreme Adversity, he almost ran the Risk of his Life and Fortunes. When this *good Man* was unexpectedly raised to the highest Prosperity, one would have thought that *Atticus* should have been the foremost to congratulate him, and to express his grateful Returns for the Services which he had done him. Quite the Contrary ; he left *Rome* in a Panic, on hearing of *Antony*'s Success ; and hid himself from the World, lest *Antony* should proscribe him, because, forsooth, he had lived upon tolerable Terms

with *Cicero* and *Brutus*: so excellently did *Atticus* judge of his Friends!

It will easily be allowed that the Character of the Man must have had some other Accomplishments of no small Weight, to have been able to counterbalance in the Esteem of the World, a Behaviour so ridiculous and unjustifiable. Accordingly it must be confess'd, that he had several very amiable and worthy Qualities in private Life. He was an excellent Father, Companion, and Master of a Family; candid and good-natur'd, generous, and yet frugal, a learned Man, and a Patron of Learning; without Avarice, Ambition, or Malice; and with a vast deal of that exterior Decency and Comeliness of Behaviour, which is so extremely taking with the greatest part of the World; and if one were zealous to shew his Character in the fairest Light it can possibly bear, his political Indolence might be qualified, by calling it a Dislike of Faction and Party-Feuds.

Perhaps it is this last Article which has been most advantageous to his Fame, especially in *England*. There is an infinite Number of Men of Property and Figure in *England*, who are no way immediately concerned in the Government of their Country. These Men may see nothing unbecoming in a determin'd Retirement from public Business, and in preferring the Enjoyments of private Friendship to any Party or Political Interest. In *Rome* it was otherwise. So that an *Englishman* may imprudently, though with no ill Intention, excuse or commend *Atticus*, in a Point where every honest *Roman* would have despised and hated him. In the mixed Monarchy of *England*, there must necessarily be Room for perpetual Factions; who have only the temporary Interest of a few Demagogues in view, without any Hope or Power of altering the Constitution. Consequently a Lover of Liberty and of the Public, may yet resolve to meddle with no Party; because he must sacrifice his own Leisure, without the Prospect of procuring any great Benefit for his Country, or the Necessity of rescuing her from any imminent Danger. With *Atticus*, Matters were in quite a different Situation: The Question was not in his Time, which Party-Leader should be Quæstor or Preconsul; but whether *Rome* should be governed by her own Laws, or by the Will and Pleasure of one of her Citizens. An *Englishman* who approves the *Non-chalance* of *Atticus*, deceives himself grossly, if he imagines that the Party-Struggles of his Time, turned upon Points like to those of our own: as, whether *Walpole* or *Pulteney* shall preside at *St. Stephen's*. To say the least that can be said, the Question among

among his Co-temporaries, was like that among our Fathers, whether *James II.* or *William III.* should be King ; and pray what would any *Englishman* think of the finest Gentleman in the World, who in the Year 1688, had been an equal Friend, Confident, and Assistant of Chancellor *Jeffries*, and the Earl of *Devonshire* ? Would he not reckon him a Man void of all Principles, a double Traitor, and an Enemy to the very Chance and Hope of Peace, who industriously prolonged a civil War, by succouring both Parties, in a Quarrel where one of them must necessarily be execrable ? Now this was precisely the Situation of *Atticus*.

The Beauty of his private Character has yet covered over this *Multitude of Sins*. A great Majority of human Kind, at least in the present Age, even of those who consider what becomes a reasonable Creature, are yet intirely unacquainted with the immediate Duties of Man, as a Member and an Agent in a political Community. These People, of natural Consequence, rest in those social Enjoyments which are next in Degree, and with which their Situation and personal Pursuits are on a Level. Such are the Pleasures of Domestic Life, of meer companionable Friendship, and of peaceful Neighbourhood. Wherever a Man's Behaviour is amiable in these Respects, he is approved and honoured without Reserve and to hesitate in commending him on Account of meer Political Indolence and Inactivity, would appear most astonishing to good-natur'd People. It would be so far from passing as a real Objection, that more probably it would be insisted on as additional Matter of Praise.

It must likewise be considered, that our general Esteem of those Men whom we know from History only, is in a good measure dependent on the particular Temper and Inclination of the Historian whom we consult, or of the Author in whom we confide for the true State of their Characters. *Atticus* died in peaceable Subjection to *Augustus Cæsar*, at a Time when the worthiest *Roman* could aspire to no Virtue above the Lot of a private Man. As a private Man, *Atticus* had acted well ; and the Historians who were to inform Posterity concerning him, durst not canvas the political Part of his Character ; or if they had done so, the *Roman* People at that Time would hardly have understood them. But he would certainly have appeared in a very different Light, if instead of having a Courtier for his Historian, he had been described to Posterity, and his Behaviour account-

ed for, under the Consulship of a *Brutus* or a *Scipio*. And to this Condition of his ancient Historians, we must add the Influence of modern Poets and Moralists; who are generally an umbratile, indolent Sort of Men, without Courage, without political Connections; and who are too much conversant with a pedantic *Love of Fame*, to have any true Notion of the *Love of Glory*. To these Men, *Atticus* has been prodigiously oblig'd.

'Tis of no small Consequence, that we rightly understand the Merit of those Men, who have acted in any important and critical Situation of their Country, and whose good or ill Character may draw along with it our Opinion in Matters of Moment. *Atticus* has been very generally approv'd and commended: the Consequence is, that his unmanly and selfish Indolence has likewise been, and is now, very generally approv'd; tho' his Country was then in a mortal Agony, and every honest Man was call'd upon to assist her. There is at this Time in the World, an unsocial, selfish, inactive sort of Creatures, who seem to think they have no Concern or Connection with their Country, but that they came into Life merely to enjoy their natural Appetites in private. I hope their Country will never stand in Need of the Assistance of such Men; but if she should, I make no doubt but they will excuse themselves, by the Example of *Atticus*.

### On GOOD and BEAUTY,

*Σὺ δέ αὲ αλλο μέρε αγαθον, αλλο δέ καλον εἶναι; οὐκον, οὐκ οὐκον πάντα πάντα καλα τε καὶ αγαθα εἶναι;*

**T**HERE is no Study so improving and entertaining to the Human Mind, as an Enquiry into the final Cause of all rational Pleasure; to trace to its Source the Reason why Matter acts in such various Ways thro' the Inlets of the *Senses* upon the *Understanding*, and affords such infinite Delight to the intermediate Pow'rs of *Imagination*. By reasoning thus from the Effect to the Efficient, we naturally become acquainted with the Conceptions of the great **AUTHOR** of all Things; we transfer as it were the Excellence of his Works into our Manners, and grow imperceptibly Good and Virtuous, (which is moral *Comeliness*) by being familiariz'd to the Beauty of external Objects. *Nature*, the Substitute of *Heav'n*, agreeable to the divine Attributes, has calculated

all

all Things for universal Convenience ; every Being that obeys her Dictates partakes of the general Good, and the Deviation alone from 'em constitutes particular Evil ; so that Vice in Morals is destructive to Pleasure, and Disorder in Matter cancels Beauty. *Nature* therefore, in the Enquiry concerning *Good* and *Beauty*, which I shall prove to be the same, must be the Criterion to go by. Enter into the Schools of the Painters and Sculptors, ask upon what Rules their Skill is founded, and what declares the Perfection of their Performances. The Artists will tell you, that such a Statue or Picture has no intrinsic Beauty in itself, but is relative to another Object, the Similitude to which is made the *Venus* of the *Art* ; the Thing therefore represented regulates our Esteem. Whence then does *that* derive this primary Excellence ? From itself without any Reference to remoter Beings ? No certainly. Every Object round has a Share, and *it* is more or less *Good* and *Beautiful*, as it corresponds to them and they to others to Infinity. Whatever then is proportionable and harmonious, is good ; every thing that is so, is *natural* ; we judge of *Beauty* by *Nature*, consequently *Good* and *Beauty* are the same. Thus we form our Opinion of an Image. Every Limb and Feature ought to agree with the whole in Size, Age, Sex, &c. and this is call'd *Symmetry* ; this Symmetry is most perfect when made for the Use and Strength of the Species, and that Use produces Beauty. 'Tis the same not only thro' all the Arts and the original Objects of *Nature*, but may be perceiv'd too in Characters, and Manners ; for what is Virtue but Moral Proportion, and the just Performance of the Part in Society assign'd you to act without Diminution or Addition ? Every one who forms his Life upon this Plan, may truly be said, without straining Language, to live *beautifully*. It now remains to be enquir'd, tho' *Good* and *Beauty* are the same, why they affect the Mind with Pleasure, and from whence arises that Disgust at Evil and Deformity ; for there is in both Cases an instantaneous Effect exclusive of Reflection. There is in Human *Nature* a Power independent of the rest, call'd the *Internal Sense*, all perfect and harmonious, which, as it proceeds from the Fountain of Good, remains for ever pure and untainted. *External Beauty*, being the infallible and inseparable Companion of *Good*, bears a fraternal Likeness to that mental Comeliness or Order ; and as a Note on one Lute being touch'd, the Unison of another tho' unmov'd will answer to it, so the similar Perfection within is responsive to that outward Proportion ; and Disgust in like Manner is created by an analogous Discord that *Evil* and *Deform-*

*Deformity* bear to the virtuous and beautiful Propensity of the Soul. I doubt not but it will be objected, that there are many who deviate from this Rule in their Actions, to whom Vice in Morals, and monstrous Appearances in Nature seem delightful. But let us consider that this proceeds from the Deception of *Fancy*; the *Internal Sense* always judges right according as Things are represented; and it would be as just to blame the *natural Eye*, when (as we read in fabulous Accounts) it mistakes a Desart for a Paradise, converted by a Magician, as to think the *intellectual* one deficient, when deceiv'd by *that Sorceress*; for by *her Wand* the *Monstrous* is chang'd into the *Wonderful* and *New*, and *Vice* becomes *Ease*, *Pleasure*, and *Power*. There is a celebrated Fable in the Author, from whom I took my Motto, 'tis *The Judgment of HERCULES*, invented by *Prodicus*, and told by *Socrates* to his Disciple; an Imitation of which shall be the Conclusion of this Essay.

As the Human Soul was just enter'd into that State we call *Life*, and was wandering in search of *Happiness*, two Females appear'd of different Forms. The One was call'd *Evil* or *Deformity*, the Daughter of Chaos, the Offspring of the Furies; the other *Good* or *Beauty*, the Daughter of Nature, the Offspring of the Gods. The Former, to conceal the Ugliness of her Person, had borrow'd all the Ornaments *PLUTUS* could bestow, and was assisted by a delusive Glass that *Fancy* held before her. The Latter wore the Garments of *Simplicity*, and was supported by *Truth*. As soon as the First saw the young Stranger, she ran and address'd him in the following Manner. " How fortunate, " O Youth, are you to meet me, who am come to conduct " you to the Palace of *Happiness*! In yonder Plain, where " all the Riches of the East are lavishly bestow'd, the God- " des resides; she is constantly attended by the *Loves* and " *Graces*, and their Mother the fair *VOLUPIA* offers her " downy Couch to the Votaries to rest on, whilst *BACCHUS* " presents his Cup of Delight: *Power* stands at her right " Hand, and *Grandeur* at her Left, and the Frowns of *Care*, " and Wrinkles of *Industry*, are banish'd the joyful Regions." When she had done speaking, the Youth turn'd his Eyes and beheld a stately Building of an *Asiatic* Order; Satyrs, Mermaids, and Beasts of heterogeneous Kinds supported the Roof, and all the Ornaments were such as never existed but in a wild Dream. But what attracted his Attention the most, was the inebriated Pleasure that appear'd thro' the vast Concourse of People of all Sorts that attended the pretended Deity; some express'd uncommon Transport in the Possession

Possession of a Scepter, others shew'd Signs of greater Rapture in the Arms of a beautiful Woman, and many yawn'd out a more indolent Satisfaction in a Posture of Repose. As he was beholding this Group of Figures, the other Female came up, and seeing him not a little pleas'd with his Prospect, "Behold, said she, I am the only Parent of Happiness; " let not the false Appearance of that Impostor delude you "into Misery." Upon saying which, her Attendant *Truth* struck the Palace with her Wand, whose Touch no Falsehood can bear, and immediately the stately Domes were turn'd into a frightful Ruin; what before appear'd the Residence of *Pleasure*, seem'd then the Court of *Disease*; the Laughs of Riot became the Groans of Anguish; *Power*, that look'd so alluring and majestic, was funk into *Tyranny*, with Scorpions in her Bosom that stung her to Distraction; all the rest underwent an equal Change, and appear'd in their proper Shapes. The Youth immediately abash'd and frighten'd, fled from this horrid Company, and sought for Safety in the Arms of his *Protector*, who taking him by the Hand, and chear-ing him with her Smiles, resum'd her Speech to him as follows. "See, said she, the Inchantress and her hellish Crew "are vanish'd, there is nothing more to fear. I am the "Guardian Genius of this Place, and never fail to guide "those who seek me, to the Temple of *true Happiness*. "That Goddess is not attended as you lately imagin'd, nor "surrounded by Noise and Riot, but sits enthron'd in the "silent Vale of Solitude, where *Peace* and *Contemplation* "administer unto her, and the lawrell'd Sisterhood of *Art* "and *Science* celebrate her Praise. There the lovely Family "of *Social Virtues* dwell, and their great Parent *Charity*, "perpetually exercises 'em in their heav'nly Duty; *Health* "and Order guard the Altar, and *Content* offers the Balm of "Bliss to all the Votaries."

PHILARETES.



The M U S E U M: Or the  
O D E to P L E A S U R E.

SISTER of Youth and laughing Joy,  
Sweet PLEASURE, Sorrow-soothing Queen,  
Daughter of *Venus*, ever young,  
And *Bacchus* wreath'd with Ivy green;  
Whom on their Laps the rosy-bosom'd Hours,  
And all the Graces nurst beneath *Idalian* Bow'rs.

O lead me to thy blissful Vale!  
Where Hope and Health in sprightly Round,  
Leisure with Freedom Hand in Hand,  
In Dance fantastic beat the Ground;  
Where'er they tread while fairest Flowers arise,  
Embroid'ring all the Green with ever-varying Dies.

Let the stern Pedant love to waste  
In studious Search the tedious Night,  
Attentive to the learned Page,  
By musing Taper's glimmering Light,  
Whose pensive Ear no wakeful Sounds alarm,  
Save the lone Owl, flow Clock, or Bell-man's drowsy Charm.

Me let the cheerful Dance engage,  
Swift-urg'd along the lighted Dome;  
While with new Warmth the Virgin glows,  
Her Cheek all flush'd with fresher Bloom;  
Motion and Musick tend'rest Thoughts inspire,  
And all her yielding Soul relents to soft Desire.

Let the sage Hermit shun Mankind,  
With pale-ey'd Penitence to dwell,  
To freeze at Midnight Hours of Pray'r  
Within a solitary Cell;  
Penurious on the verdant Herb to sup,  
And of the chilling Stream to drain his Beechen Cup.

Be mine, amid the social Band,  
The Raptures of *Champaign* to taste,  
Whose vig'rous Juice new Relish gives  
To mutual Converse, Reason's Feast,  
While old *Anacreon* seems to rise, and say,  
" Begone, ye Toils of Life; ye busy Cares, away!"

DAVID's LAMENTATION.

*First Chapter of the Second Book of SAMUEL.*

YE Sons of *Israel*! Heav'n's distinguish'd Care,  
In Council prudent, terrible in War;  
How are your Glories, and your Triumphs fled,  
Sunk in the Ruins of the mighty Dead!  
Silence, ye Winds, in Murmurs cease to blow,  
Lest you shou'd prove sad Messengers of Woe;  
And spread our Sorrow through the hostile Plain,  
Sorrow, just Tribute to the Godlike Slain.  
Be still each Tongue, let no ill-boding Voice,  
Wake thro' *Philistia*'s Tents untimely Joys;  
Lest from our Misery they should find Relief,  
Smile at our Tears, and triumph in our Grief.  
Fatal *Gilboa*! conscious Mount of Death,  
Where *Saul* and *Jonathan* resign'd their Breath,  
Still may you wear sad Monuments of Woe:  
Curst be the Honours of your verdant Brow;  
Let Heav'n with-hold its all-enliv'ning Power,  
The genial Sunbeam, and refreshing Shower;  
Whilst Desolation casts a gloomy Shade,  
And Horror trembles o'er thy blasted Head:  
For on thy Top, were slain the noble Pair,  
The Dread of Heroes, and the Pride of War.  
O *Saul*! thy royal and anointed Head  
Lies undistinguish'd from the Vulgar, dead.

Nor cou'd thy Crown, or holy Unction save  
 Thy rip'ning Virtues from th' untimely Grave.  
 There vilely scatter'd lye the Spear and Shield,  
 Which won the Spoils from many a well-fought Field.  
 Heav'ns, how he stood ! how flew the brandish'd Spear !  
 And bore down Legions in the Tide of War.  
*Philistia*, Witnes of his powerful Hand,  
 Still mourns his Conquests thro' th' uncoupled Land.

And thee, oh *Jonathan*, an equal Flame,  
 Forc'd thro' the Battle to the Lists of Fame.  
 O brave Companion in the toilsome Fight !  
 Both Heir, and Rival of thy Father's Might.  
 With Vengeance pointed, ever certain flew  
 Thy whizzing Terrors from the twanging Yew.

Less strong the tawny Monarch of the Grove ;  
 Or Heaven's own Thunder rolling from above :  
 Less swift the Motion of the Eagle's Flight ;  
 Or winged Vapours bursting into Light.  
 O more than Friends ! in Love eternal join'd,  
 One was the Father's, one the Filial Mind ;  
 You in your Lives were ever lovely found,  
 In Death now sinking with one common Wound,

Ye Nymphs of *Judah*, who rejoice to bear  
 The radiant Spoils of *Saul*'s victorious Spear,  
 With Tears approach, your mighty Conqueror dead,  
 And pay due Tribute to his royal Shade.  
 For him, his Gifts, your purple Vests unfold,  
 And deck his Corse with Ornaments of Gold.

Ye Pride of *Israel* ! in what desp'rate State,  
 Of Life too lavish, covetous of Fate,  
 Rush'd forth your mighty Souls—O glorious Heat,  
 In vain, destructive to the bold and great.  
 Why must *Saul* prove the Conqueror of *Saul* ?  
 Why the Son's Virtue, with the Father's fall.

O Jonathan ! in whom my Life was pleas'd,  
Who heal'd its Sorrows, and its Burthens eas'd ;  
O Brother ! when thy virtuous Acts appear  
To my fond Soul, tho' sad, for ever dear :  
Down my pale Checks my Tears their Course renew,  
And my Heart faddens at th' ideal View.  
Thy Friendship fought me with the Powers of Love ;  
Powers that less ardent e'en in Virgins prove :  
How sank the Mighty, plunged in Despair !  
How greatly fell the Thunderbolts of War !

*On a BEAUTY with ILL QUALITIES.*

I.

**M**istaken Nature here has join'd  
A beauteous Face and ugly Mind ;  
In vain the faultless Features strike,  
When Soul and Body are unlike ;  
Pity those snowy Breasts shou'd hide  
Deceit, and Avarice, and Pride.

II.

So in rich Jarrs from *China* brought,  
With glowing Colours gayly wrought,  
Oftimes the subtle Spider dwells,  
With secret Venom bloated swells,  
Weaves all his fatal Nets within,  
As unsuspected, as unseen.

*On a beautiful GROTTO near the Water.*

**T**HE Graces fought in yonder Stream  
To cool the fervid Day ;  
When Love's malicious Godhead came,  
And stole their Robes away.

Proud

Proud of his Theft, th'insulting God,  
 Their Spoils bade *Delia* wear ;  
 While they, ash'm'd to stir abroad,  
 Remain all naked here.

## A S O N G.

## I.

**T**HE God of Love  
 Had often strove  
 To storm my guarded Breast ;  
 With ev'ry Wile  
 Try'd to beguile,  
 And rob me of my Reft :  
 With Beauty, and with Gold essay'd,  
 How best my Heart might be betray'd.

## II.

To Riches cold,  
 Though made of Gold,  
 I scorn'd to kiss the Chain ;  
 And ev'ry Grace  
 Of ev'ry Face  
 Was lighted up in vain :  
 Hence thou Seducer, Love, I cry'd—  
 And all his wanton Arts defy'd.

## III.

My Bow and Quiver,  
 Here for ever,  
 Says *Cupid*, I disclaim ;  
 Another Way  
 I must essay,  
 Th' unruly Heart to tame :  
 Then with a crafty Smile he flew,  
 The stubborn Rebel to subdue.

## IV.

IV.

And so he took  
Each lovely Look  
That does our Pride controul ;  
Each winning Air,  
That forms the Fair,  
And ravishes the Soul :  
Adds ev'ry nameless Grace to these,  
That deeply wound, yet sweetly please.

V.

Each dimpled Smile,  
That can beguile,  
And steal away our Hearts ;  
The pleasing Fires  
Of gay Desires,  
He liberally imparts :  
Then with th' enchanting Treasures flies  
To lodge in *Belimperia's* Eyes.

VI.

Thoughtless I rove,  
Secure of Love,  
'Till from his Ambush laid,  
He shot a Dart  
Into my Heart,  
And all my Courage fled :  
That now I live, I live to prove  
That all my Life's a Life of Love.

VII.

A Life of Love  
I live to prove,

Am

And muſt confeſs his Pow'r ;

Yes, treacherous Boy,

Thy ſpite enjoy,

I tremble, and adore :

I live to love, I ſwear I do,

My Heart can bear me Witneſs too.

### VIII.

A Life of Love

I live to prove,

Whilſt in thoſe Eyes you ſtay ;

Nay, always I

Am doom'd to ſigh :

For thou'd you ever stray,

You'll leave, I to my Coft ſhall find,

All Love's Artillery behind.

### To a Young Lady with FONTENELLE's Plurality of Worlds.

IN this ſmall Work, all Nature's Wonders ſee,

The soften'd Features of Philosophy.

In Truth by eaſy Steps you here advance,

Truth as diverting, as the beſt Romance.

Long had theſe Arts to Sages been confin'd,

None ſaw their Beauty, till by poring blind ;

By ſtudying ſpent, like Men that cram too full,

From Wiſdom's Feaſt they roſe not chear'd, but dull :

The Gay and Airy ſmil'd to ſee 'em grave,

And fled ſuch Wiſdom like *Trophonius' Cave*.

Juſtly they thought they might thoſe Arts deſpife,

Which made Men fullen, e're they could be wiſe.

Brought down to Sight, with Eaſe you viue 'em here ;

Tho' deep the Bottom, yet the Stream is clear.

Your

Your flutt'ring Sex, still valued Science less ;  
Careless of any, but the Arts of Dres.  
Their useless Time was idly thrown away  
On empty Novels, or some new-born Play.  
The best, perhaps, a few loose Hours might spare  
For some unmeaning Thing, miscall'd a Pray'r.  
In vain the glittering Orbs, each starry Night,  
With mingling Blazes shed a Flood of Light :  
Each Nymph with cold Indiff'rence saw 'em rise ;  
And, taught by Fops, to them preferr'd her Eyes.  
None thought the Stars were Suns so widely sown,  
None dreamt of other Worlds, besides our own.  
Well might they boast their Charms, when ev'ry Fair  
Thought this World all ; and her's the brightest here.  
Ah ! quit not the large Thoughts this Book inspires,  
For those thin Trifles which your Sex admires ;  
Assert your Claim to Sense, and shew Mankind,  
That Reason is not to themselves confin'd.  
The haughty Belle, whose Beauty's awful Shrine,  
'Twere Sacrilege t'Imagine not divine,  
Who thought so greatly of her Eyes before,  
Bid her read this, and then be vain no more.  
How poor ev'n You, who reign without Controul,  
If we except the Beauties of your Soul !  
Shou'd all Beholders feel the same Surprize ;  
Shou'd all who see you, see you with my Eyes ;  
Were no such Blasts to make that Beauty less ;  
Shou'd you be what I think, what all confess :  
'Tis but a narrow Space those Charms engage ;  
One Island only, and not half an Age !

## LITERARY MEMOIRS.

*Leçons de Physique Experimentale, &c.*

That is,

*Lectures [or Discourses] of Experimental Philosophy, by the Abbé Nollet, of the Royal Academy of Sciences, and of the Royal Society of London. Three Volumes. Paris 1745.*

THE Author of these Discourses prejudices the Reader in his Favour, by the Manner of philosophizing which he professes in his Preface. "I do not introduce myself (says he) under the Auspices of any Philosopher; 'tis neither the Theory of *Descartes*, nor that of *Newton*, nor that of *Leibnitz*, which I have prescribed myself to follow particularly; it is, without any personal Preference, that Theory which a general Agreement and Facts fairly stated, seem to me to have well established. Full of Respect, and even of Gratitude, for the great Men who have communicated their Thoughts to us, and enriched us with their Discoveries, of whatever Nation they be, and in whatever Age they have lived, I admire their Genius even in their Errors, and I make it a Point of Duty to give them the Honour which is due to them; but I admit nothing upon their Word, unless it be marked with the Stamp of Experiment. In Natural Philosophy, a Man should never be the Slave of Authority, and yet less of his own Prejudices; he should acknowledge the Truth wherever he discovers it, and not affect to be a *Newtonian* at *Paris*, and a *Cartesian* at *London*."

Our Author follows, in printing these Lectures, the same Method which he had done in delivering them. He chuses, in each Article, those Points which seem to him most interesting, most new, and most proper to be proved by Experiments. He explains, with all the Precision he is Master of, the State of the Question. He marks its Origin, and the Authors who have treated it with most Success. He then proves his Doctrine, by Operations, of which he explains the Mechanism; and finally, he refers either to the Question itself,

itself, or to the Facts by which it was determined, every thing relating to them in the Phenomena of Nature, in the Works of human Art, and the most useful Machines and Conveniences of Life. The Subjects are treated with great Order and Perspicuity ; the most simple and intelligible Propositions are placed first, and others more difficult regularly deduced from them. The Titles of the several Lectures are as follow: I. Of the Extension, Divisibility, Figure, and Solidity of Matter. II. Of the Porosity, Compressibility, and Elasticity of Bodies. III. Of the Mobility of Bodies ; where the Author treats of the *dead and living Forces*, of the Laws of simple Motion, of the Resistance of Mediums, of Friction, and of the Mechanical perpetual Motion. IV. The Sequel of the Laws of simple Motion. V Of compound Motion, and of central Forces. VI. Of Gravity. VII. and VIII. Of the Nature and Properties of the Air.

The first of these Inquiries, concerning the Divisibility of Matter, is properly Scholastic and Metaphysical, rather than a Subject of Experimental Philosophy. Our Author here discusses that famous, and much-agitated Question, whether Matter be divisible *ad infinitum*? He observes, that this Divisibility is either ideal, or actual. If it be taken in the former Sense, it is evident, says he, that the Question may be answered in the Affirmative : for it is undeniable that in our Ideas, every Particle of Matter, however minute, is conceived as consisting of two Halves, and the Surfaces which include it, as really at a Distance from each other. The only Doubt which remains, is, whether Nature be as powerful as our Conception ; and whether those little Portions of Extension which have an intire Contact with each other, not penetrating each other's Substance, are upon that Account actually divisible ? Our Author replies, that as Natural Philosophy proves nothing but by Facts, and as no known Fact is, in this Case, of sufficient Subtlety, the Question must therefore remain undecided.

In the second Lecture, concerning the Porosity of Bodies, there are several ingenious Experiments. " The Porosity of " Bodies (says our Author) is nothing else than the *Vacuum*, " which exists between their solid Parts : And by this Word " *Vacuum*, we do not understand Spaces absolutely void of " Matter ; for it is indisputable that the greater Part of those " Interstices lodge certain Fluids, of which there are a " thousand Proofs." When a dry Sponge is plunged into Water, the Air is observed to come out, as the Water penetrates it ; and when moist Bodies are dried, they become lighter by

the Evaporation of that Fluid which they had imbibed by means of their Pores. These foreign Particles fill up only the void Spaces of a larger Size: There are, without doubt, Pores of another Order, which are filled by finer and more attenuated Fluids; as we see Fire and Light passing through Bodies impenetrable to Water or to Air; and probably there are still finer Fluids to fill up smaller Vacancies, till we come at last to Interstices of an absolute *Vacuum*. For our Author establishes it as a general Proposition, that excepting only the Atoms, or absolute Elements of Matter, every thing material is porous, solid Bodies as well as Fluids; that they differ, in this Respect, only as to the Number, Magnitude, and Disposition of their Pores.

Under the Heads of Friction, and the Resistance of Mediums, our Author gives us his Sentiments concerning a perpetual mechanical Motion; which he proves to be impossible, by the following Argument: A Body cannot move, but in a Space; there is no natural Place absolutely void of Matter: On the other Hand, a Body, of whatever kind, cannot move, but either upon a Surface, or round some fixed Point; in both Cases there must be a Friction, either upon the Surface, or at the central Point; and likewise another Impediment from the Resistance of the Medium, through which the Body moves. Thus the Quantity of Motion impressed upon it is diminished by a double Obstacle; so that in order to produce a perpetual Motion, there should new Forces be procured every Instant o' Time, in order to repair those which are thus lost; but such a continual Supply of new Forces is contrary to the first Law of Motion, by which all Bodies preserve their present State, unless they be forced to depart from it by some new Cause.

Thus we have seen our Author's Candour in two remarkable Instances; in denying the *Plenum* of his Countryman *Des Cartes*; and in arguing from Sir *Isaac Newton's* first Law of Motion. We may therefore venture to assign the same Cause for those Objections, which he advances against the *Newtonian* Doctrine of Attraction. He endeavours to prove the Insufficiency of this Hypothesis, by a great Number of Phenomena. He observes, that *Newton* seeing in the Bodies which surround us, several Effects which may be called Attractions, suspected that the Cause of 'em was universal: and setting himself to measure those Effects, rather than to explain them, he supposed that all the Particles of Matter tended reciprocally towards each other; and that two Bodies consequently attracted each other in the direct

direct Proportion of their Quantities of Matter ; so that if one contained twice as much Matter as the other, its attractive Force would be double that of the other. He also concluded, that this Tendency, or attractive Force, could not be equal at different Distances ; and there were some Reasons which made him believe that Attraction, like all other Powers which are propagated spherically, was in the inverse Proportion of the Squares of the Distances ; that is, that at twice the Distance, it would be four Times less ; at thrice, nine Times ; and so on, multiplying the Distance by itself, to measure the Decrease of Attraction among Bodies so distant. And as the Globe itself so infinitely exceeds the Quantity of solid Extension in all other Bodies at Hand, so it is no wonder, that its Attraction should overcome all their inferior attractive Powers. To judge of *Newton's* Hypothesis, it was necessary to apply it to detached Bodies. This Sir Isaac himself undertook : he sought for Proofs among the heavenly Bodies, and there he found so great a Conformity with his own general Law, that the World imagines he discovered the great Secret of Nature. Our Author allows the great Plausibility which accrues to the *Newtonian* Doctrine, when it is applied to the Motions of the heavenly Bodies ; but denies that his Attraction is a general Property or Law of Matter, because of several Phenomena, where Bodies attract each other, in Contradiction to the attractive Force of the Globe, and where their attractive Powers are quite inconsistent with those which his Doctrine supposes, with respect to their Distances and Quantity of Matter.

Most of our Author's other Discourses are of too Mathematical a Nature to be insisted on here : but his two last on the Properties of the Atmosphere, contain such useful and entertaining Knowledge, as better suits our general Design. It is certain that the Air is a Pluid, whose Parts are similar to each other ; and this Fluidity seems essential to its Nature ; for we see Liquors change their Form and turn solid, by Cold, Compression, and other Causes ; but no Cause in Nature produces the same Effect upon Air. The Figure of its Particles it is difficult to assign : We know that they can not pass through moisten'd Paper, and we know that the Particles of Water can ; but we are not therefore authorized to conclude, that those of Water are finer and less entangled with each other. If one might be allowed a meer Conjecture, says our Author, the integrant Parts of Air might be conceiv'd as little contorted Filaments, in the Form of flexible and elastic spiral Lines : Their Assemblage will almost resemble that of the Fibres of carded Wool, which by Pressure may be reduced into a smaller Volume, and endeavour to expand

expand themselves to their former State. But this our Author advances as nothing certain or decisive in the Question. We shall not infist on his Explications of a *dry* and *moist* Air; nor on the Experiments which prove its *Gravity*. It is difficult to compare its Gravity with that of any other Liquor, because of the Dilatation and Contraction which all Fluids suffer from Heat and Cold. Water and Air compared in the Month of *June*, have neither of them the same Gravity as in the Month of *January*; and their Degrees of Condensation and Expansion, from Cold and Heat, do not preserve a regular Proportion betwixt the two Fluids. Besides, they are mixed with heterogeneous Bodies. Our Author observes likewise, that there are some Waters which, at the same Degree of Heat and Cold, differ sensibly among themselves, as to their comparative Weight. We have several Experiments to calculate the Compression and Expansion of Air. This Latter may be made to exceed three hundred and thirty-six Times the Volume which the same Air occupies, when it keeps up the Mercury at twenty-eight Inches. The Effects of Heat and Cold are also remarkable upon the same Fluid. One Effect of Heat is to augment its Volume. Another Effect is to augment its Elasticity in Proportion of the compressing Force. Air is found, in the Heat of boiling Water, to occupy a Space seven times as large as in the common Heat of Summer. Another very remarkable Property, is, that Air is necessary to the Accension or Inflammation of combustible Matter. In an empty Receiver, the Flame of a Candle goes out; and Gunpowder, instead of making its Explosion, is dissipated in Smoke, and without any Noise. These Appearances admit of a very probable Explanation. For if Flame consist in a vibrating Motion, imprinted upon the Particles of combustible Bodies; that Vibration cannot appear but in an elastic Medium capable of Re-action; and this likewise informs us, why Fire burns so much stronger and clearer in Winter than in Summer: For in Winter, the Air is much more elastic.

Our Author proceeds to examine Air in its State of Imprisonment within the Pores of solid Bodies; for all Bodies, Fluids not excepted, contain much Air within their Pores. By Means of an exhausted Receiver, this Air is very plainly perceiv'd disengaging itself from its Confinement, when once the Pressure of the external Atmosphere is remov'd. On this Occasion our Author observes, that it is not universally true, that Bodies are better preserv'd in a Vacuum than in open Air; for if they have any Principle of Fermentation, when they lose the Air which was contain'd in their Pores,

Pores, their internal Parts are left at Liberty to an intestine Motion, which disjoins their natural and proper Composition. It is something hard to conceive how so great a Quantity of Air can be lodg'd in the Pores of Bodies, without seeming to be compress'd, or exerting its Elasticity; tho' it occupies a hundred, or one hundred and fifty Times less Space than in its natural Condition. Neither does it seem at all, in this Confinement, to contribute to the Compressibility or Dilatability of Bodies. Our Author is sensible of the Difficulty of accounting for this: he gives M. *Mairan's* Solution of it; by supposing that the Particles of Air are here mix'd with some heterogeneous, hard, and unelastic Particles, which hinder the aerial Filaments from touching each other, and from acting upon each other with their native Elasticity.

In the eleventh and last Lecture, our Author goes on to consider the Air; 1. as a Fluid at rest, pressing equally upon all the Parts of the Globe; receiving different Substances from it; sometimes supporting those Substances, sometimes returning them; and transmitting Heat and Cold, as far as it receives them. 2. He considers it as a Fluid agitated by Motions differently modified. Under the first Head, he calculates the total Weight and Altitude of the Atmosphere. It is generally allow'd that its Pressure decreases in such a Proportion as we rise from the Surface of the Globe; that an Ascent of twelve Fathoms from the Height of the Sea, will sink the Mercury in the Barometer about one Third of an Inch; but this Decrease must vary in going still further upwards, because the Density of the Atmosphere gradually lessens, in Proportion as its perpendicular Altitude lessens. Which makes it impossible to define with Certainty its whole Altitude and Weight; tho' several Calculations have been made concerning them. As for those Substances which the Air receives from the Earth, our Author divides them into *Vapours* and *Exhalations*; the first being of the Nature of Water, the other of a mix'd Kind, and admitting of various Modifications, so as to produce the several Sorts of *Meteors*. These last he distinguishes into *watry Meteors*, such as Rain, Hail, and the like; and into *luminous Meteors*, such as Thunder, Light'ning, and the *Aurora Borealis*: which latter Sort he reserves for some future Volume, when he comes to treat of Light and Fire.

With respect to *watry Meteors*, " In the Day-time, says our Author, the Rays of the Sun heat both the Earth and the Air which surrounds it. When the Sun sets, that

" Heat

“ Heat lessens by Degrees ; but it remains longest in the  
“ densest Bodies ; so that during the Night, the Earth and  
“ Water are generally hotter than the Air. Then the Mat-  
“ ter of this Heat or Fire, endeavouring to expand itself  
“ uniformly, passes from the Earth to the Air, and carries  
“ along with it the most subtle Particles of Terrestrial  
“ Bodies, which it detaches and animates by its Motion.”  
Hence the lowest Part of the Atmosphere receives the greatest  
Quantity of those evaporated Particles ; which causes the  
*Damp* or *Mil-dew*. But at Sun-rise, Heat begins to spread  
again thro’ the Air ; which consequently dilating itself, lets  
fall the finest of those evaporated Particles ; which is the  
Origin of *Dew*. But this Dew differs from that which ap-  
pears on the Surface of Plants ; for that is the Effect of their  
own Perspiration. All Dews deposite a Slime ; which shews  
that they have some heterogeneous Substance, besides pure  
Water ; and sometimes Water forms the least Part of the  
Dew, as in the Gums of Plants. Towards the End of Au-  
tumn, when the Nights grow long, the Earth has a longer  
Time to grow cool ; and then the Particles of the evapo-  
rated Water freeze, and form the *Hoar-Frost*, which melts  
soon after the Sun appears. These Particles of hoar Frost  
are often rais’d into the Atmosphere by a dry Wind, and  
form *Mists* or *Fogs*, which are often mix’d with Mineral  
Exhalations, as their bad Smell discovers. Mists are most  
frequent in Winter, because the greater Cold more readily  
condenses the Vapours, and does not suffer them to rise high  
enough to be *Clouds*. In this Manner our Author goes on  
thro’ all the several Sorts of Vapours and watry Meteors ;  
we cannot however pass over his Account of the *Water-  
Spout* ; which is a thick Cloud, in the Form of a Cylinder,  
or an inverted Cone : it throws round it much Hail or Rain,  
and makes a Noise like the Tossings of a stormy Sea : it over-  
turns Houses and Trees wherever it passes ; and if it happen  
to light upon a Ship, that Ship is inevitably sunk. The  
Sailors endeavour always to get out of its Reach ; and if they  
cannot avoid it, try to break its Force by firing Cannon at  
it. Several Hypotheses have been contriv’d to explain its  
Origin and Formation : the most probable is, that it arises  
from two oposite Winds striking the same Cloud in parallel  
Directions, and so giving it a violent Rotation.

Our Author proceeds to the Motions of the Atmosphere,  
which he divides into Sounds and Winds. Sounds may be  
consider’d with respect, 1. To the sonorous Body : 2. To  
the

the Medium which transmits it: 3. To the Organ of Perception.

The third Head, our Author does not meddle with, as belonging rather to Metaphysicks. Sound arises from the Collision of two Bodies, whose Clashing gives a Motion to the surrounding Fluid. *Sonorous Bodies* are those whose Sounds are distinct, and may be compar'd with each other, for some Time. The most elastick Bodies are most sonorous. The Vibrations of a Bell, and of a Cord, when struck, are almost similiar; except that the Vibrations of the former are alternately oval, and the latter in the Form of a Parallelogram. If we touch a sounding Body with the Hand, its Sound ceases; because the Touch is an Obstacle to its Vibrations; the same Effect happens if a Bell be crack'd; because the Vibrations cannot proceed from one Side of the Crack to another, there being there a Solution of Continuity. On the same Principles, we may explain that remarkable Appearance of a Glass flying in Pieces, by the Sound of a Voice, when it gains its Unison: for then, the Vibrations of the Glass are prodigiously increas'd; and not being able to perform them, but by a receding of its Parts from each other, it is immediately broke by the Impetus of the moving Air. Air is the natural and proper Medium of Sound; but according to our Author, not the only one: for he thinks that solid Bodies serve for its Propagation. He advances several Facts in Favour of his Sentiment. Sound in a Water purg'd of Air, is transmitted to the Atmosphere; and our Author, contrary to the Opinion of other Philosophers, thinks that Water is so compressible as to be able to convey Sound. He examines at great Length the Swiftness of Sound, or the Time which it requires to pass over a given Space; and from several Experiments, he fixes it at one Hundred and seventy Fathoms in a Second of Time. As Elastick Bodies are most sonorous, it should follow that a condens'd Air, being more elastick, should also transmit Sound to a greater Distance than common Air: which is found accordingly to be true in Fact. For by placing a Bell within a Receiver, it was found that an Air condens'd to twice the Density of the external Atmosphere, convey'd Sound to twice the Distance; and at thrice the Density, to thrice the Distance, which it reach'd when transmitted only thro' common Air. So that the Intenseness of sound is in direct Proportion to the Density and Elasticity of the Air.

The last Article of this Work is concerning the Winds. Wind is nothing else than agitated Air; a Portion of the

Atmosphere which moves, as in a Current, with a certain Swiftness and Direction. The Winds are distinguished into several Sorts; some of which are call'd *general*, or *constant*, because they blow without ceasing in a certain Part of the Atmosphere; such are the *Trade-Winds*, which blow continually between the Tropics. Other Winds are *periodical*, or begin and end at a certain Time of Year, or at certain Hours of the Day: as those which the French call *Mous-guns*, which are South-East, from *October* to *May*, and North-West from *May* to *October*, between the Coast of *Tranquebar* and the Island of *Madagascar*; and the *Sea-Wind*, and the *Land-Wind*, the former rising at Morning, the latter at Evening. Other Winds are variable, as well with respect to their Direction, as to their Swiftness and Duration. The History of Winds is better known than their Causes. We know in general that they proceed from a Want of Equilibrium in the Air; and several Causes destroying that Equilibrium, will of course produce Winds. Such are Cold, Heat, Sulphureous, and other Exhalations from Grottoes and particular Soils, with their different Mixtures and Fermentations. The Clouds, and their Motions and various Clashings, may also comprehend various Causes of Winds.

M. *Nollet* has got a considerable Reputation by this Work; and the Publick waits impatiently to see the other Volumes, which he has promis'd.

### An ASTRONOMICAL PARADOX.

OUR best Astronomers assert, *That the Moon turns once round her own Axis in the same Time exactly that she is going round the Earth, the Center of her Orbit, by which Means she always keeps the same Face towards Us; and that this Axis is not perpendicular to the Plane of her Orbit, but oblique.*

I call This a Paradox, because of the Difficulty arising in it from the Considerations following.

In looking for a Proof of the first Part of it, we find one advanc'd in Dr. S'GRAVESANDE's *Mathematical Elements of Phisicks*, Book IV, Chap. 7. Definition 8, which being attended to, shews, both by the Discourse and the Figure refer'd to, that in his Argument there, he assumes the Axis of the Moon as *perpendicular* to the Plane of her Orbit; and, after reasoning upon it as he thinks proper, he leaves us to infer, that the Result must be the same in the Appearance of the Moon, tho' her Axis be *oblique* to that Plane.

But

But if it be true that the *same* Effect must proceed from an oblique Axis as from a perpendicular one, then (unless some peculiar Property can be shewn to belong to the *particular Degree* of the asserted Obliquity) it must be true of all possible Inclinations of the Axis between its being perpendicular and its lying in the Plane of its Orbit. Yet it is not possible to conceive, but that if the Inclination were *large*, and consequently exhibiting to us a considerable Tract about each Pole, we should, by her Motion round that Axis, *most certainly* see the Spots about the Poles continually changing their Situations; and tho' her *same* Hemisphere were always next us, yet it would *vary* its Appearance to us by the successive different *Bearings* of each Spot to its Pole. The Spot seen on *one* Side of the Pole, when she is within three Days and a half of her greatest Latitude, must certainly in about seven Days Time appear to be got half Way over to the *other* Side, as it will then have made one fourth Part of its Circuit round the Pole. This Shifting of the Spots would be *most* visible at the Moon's Equator; and there, not only in the Case of a *large* Obliquity of her Axis to her Orbit, but in the *smallest* whatever.

Doctor HARRIS, in the later Editions of his *Lexicon Technicum*, under the Word *Moon*, gives us the same Proof of the Moon's turning on her Axis, express'd indeed in other Words, but resting on the same Assumption of the Perpendicularity of that Axis to its Orbit: on which Assumption he finds his Assertion, that "Of the Moon's two Motions, the one round her Orbit, and the other round her Axis, one Motion as much converts her *to*, as the other turns her *from* the Earth." Words quite unapplicable to the Case of a Rotation oblique and transverse to the Direction of the orbicular Motion.

These two Authors, being some of the latest Writers in this Science, must be suppos'd to give us the Strength of all that had been said on the Subject by those who went before them.

But now, if the Assumption of these Gentlemen and their Reasoning upon it be *right*, the Axis of the Moon *cannot* have the Obliquity ascrib'd to it. If, on the other Hand, it be certain from any Phenomena that it *has* that Obliquity, then the Assumption is *fallacious*, and we have lost our Proof that the Moon's constant Keeping of the same Face towards us is owing to her turning on her own Axis.

*N. B.* There is another *gratis* Supposition imply'd in the said Gentlemen's Argument; *viz.* That a Body moving in an Orbit, and carrying all its Diameters parallel to themselves,

does not turn on an Axis within itself; whereas it is certain, that if whilst that Body is going in its Orbit from West to East, you cause it to turn in the same Time on an Axis within itself from East to West, it will carry every Diameter in it parallel to itself, notwithstanding such Rotation on its Axis.

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## HISTORICAL MEMOIRS.

### *The History and Political Interests of PRUSSIA, continued and concluded.*

REDERICK WILLIAM, Prince Royal of *Prussia*, and electoral Prince of *Brandenburg*, succeeded his Father in all his Dominions, finished the imperfect Negotiation of Peace in which that Prince was engaged at the Time of his Demise, and entered into a closer Correspondence than most of his Predecessors with the Court of *France*. He had not been long seated on the Throne, before he found himself involved in some Disputes with the Crown of *Sweden*, occasioned chiefly by the marching of Troops through the different Parts of his Dominions, as well by the *Swedes*, as by the Powers engaged in War against them. His *Prussian* Majesty endeavoured first to have compromised Matters amicably; but that being found impracticable, he perceived himself at last obliged to enter into that War in Conjunction with other Princes confederated against *Sweden*; which ended in driving the *Swedes* entirely out of *Germany*, and depriving them of all that *Gustavus Adolphus* and his Successors had acquired in the Empire. But notwithstanding this great Success, his *Prussian* Majesty consented, under the Mediation of his late *Britannick* Majesty King *George I.* to certain Preliminary Articles for a Peace with *Sweden*, which were signed the eighteenth of *August 1719*, and afterwards were digested into a Treaty, that was concluded at *Stockholm* between the two Crowns, *January 10, 1720*. By the third Article of which Treaty, the Crown of *Sweden* yields in Perpetuity to his *Prussian* Majesty, his Heirs and Successors, the City of *Stetin*, the District between the *Oder* and the *Rhine*, with the Islands of *Wollin* and *Usedom*, with all the Rights granted to the Crown of *Sweden* by the Empe-

Emperor and Empire, to the said Places, by the 10th Article of the Treaty of *Westphalia*. And by the nineteenth Article of this Treaty, the Crown of *Sweden* yields farther the Towns of *Dam* and *Golnaw*, on the other Side the *Oder*, with the Territories belonging to them: In Consideration of which, his *Prussian* Majesty undertook no longer to assist the Enemies of *Sweden*, to promote to the utmost of his Power the intended general Peace between her and her Neighbours, to satisfy the Mortgages and Incumbrances on the Places yielded to him, contracted by the Crown of *Sweden*; as also to pay two millions of Rix-Dollars to that Crown at three different Payments. By this Treaty his *Prussian* Majesty acquired a great Acceffion of Territory, to which, as we have shewn before, his Family had very fair Pretensions as Successors to the Dukes of *Pomerania*; and by this Acquifition gained a free Communication with the *Baltick*, which was of as great or greater Consequence than the Revenue of the Places thus acquired; and contributed highly to the Benefit of other Parts of his *Prussian* Majesty's Dominions.

The same Temper and Disposition which his *Prussian* Majesty shewed in the Management of this important Affair, appeared in all the subsequent Transactions of his Life; that is to say, he was always careful to maintain and support his own Dignity, to secure his Dominions, to make himself respected by his Neighbours, and to be constantly in such a Posture as might prevent his being hurt by any unforeseen Accident; and give him an Opportunity, where the Circumstances of Things would permit it, of turning any such Accident to his Advantage. It was with this View, that he kept always on Foot between eighty and a hundred thousand regular Troops, well paid, and perfectly well disciplined; at the same time that he was no less careful of his Revenues, as being thoroughly sensible, that if ever a War became necessary, Treasure would be as needful as Troops. This Conduct of his, though it exposed him to the Censure of some shallow Politicians, was perfectly agreeable to his own Circumstances, and to the general System of Affairs in *Europe*. It preserved all his Dominions, though separated and detached from each other, from running any Risque; it made him considered as the most Powerful Potentate in *Germany*, next the House of *Austria*; and it gave him an Opportunity of promoting his Interest upon every Motion of the Balance of Power, without actually engaging in a War. Upon these Motives he entered into the famous Treaty of *Hanover*, concluded the third of September 1725, with their most Christian

Christian and *Britannick* Majesties ; and tho' the Bounds of this Article will not allow us to enter into Particulars, yet we may safely venture to affirm in general, that he managed that, and the many subsequent Negotiations that followed from it, with great Dexterity, and so as to turn every Incident as much as it was possible to his own Advantage.

We have already shewed the Pretensions formed by the House of *Brandenburgh*, on the Succession of his Majesty King *William III.* as Prince of *Orange* ; and have taken Notice of the Dispute occasioned by the Will of that Monarch, in favour of his Cousin the Prince of *Nassau Frieze*, which subsisted for many Years ; and for terminating of which, a Negotiation was set on Foot in 1722, which ended ten Years afterwards, in a Treaty concluded at *Berlin*, *May 13, 1732*. By this Treaty the Principality of *Orange* and all the Dominions of the Family of *Chalon* in *France*, are yielded to his *Prussian* Majesty, and a Cession thereof by him to the King of *France*, by the Treaty signed at *Utrecht* the first of *August 1713*, are confirmed by the Prince of *Nassau Frieze*. It is agreed that his Highness shall take the Title and Arms of *Orange*, but without prejudice to the Royal House of *Prussia*, by whom the Title and Arms of that Principality are likewise to be born. His *Prussian* Majesty was by this Treaty to have for himself, his Heirs and Successors, as his Share of the Succession beforementioned, the Principality of *Meurs*, the County of *Lingen*, the District of *Montfort*, the Lordship of upper and lower *Swaluwe*, the Lordships of *Naltwick*, *Hoenderland*, *Wateringen*, *Orange-Polder*, and *s'Gravesand*, the Customs of *Gennep*, the Barony of *Herstal* entire, the Lordship of *Turnhout*, the House at the *Hague*, called the *Old Court*, and the House of *Honslaardyk*. All the rest of the Succession is left to the Prince of *Orange*, who charges himself with all the Debts of the Family ; and all the Pensions payable to certain Persons therein mention'd, and Demands of the House of *Orange* on the Crown of *Spain*, for an annual Pension of fifty thousand Florins, as well as a Debt of one hundred and twenty thousand Crowns, are assigned to the Prince, with the King's Promise to assist him with his Interest at that Court, to procure a Satisfaction for them. This definitive Treaty, by which an End was put to a very perplexed and troublesome Affair, was ratified by his *Prussian* Majesty on the thirtieth of *May*, by the Prince of *Orange* on the thirtieth of *June* following ; and notified to their High Mightinesses the *States General*, who had charged themselves with the Administration of the said Succession.

The

The Desire his *Prussian* Majesty had to preserve the Peace of his Dominions, and to avoid, as far as he was able, taking any Share whatever in the Disturbances of *Europe*, induced him to act with great Caution and Reserve when a War broke out between his late Imperial Majesty *Cba. VI.* and the Kings of *France* and *Spain*, in Reference to the Election of the King of *Poland*. There is no doubt, that both the Houses of *Austria* and *Bourbon* were extremely pressing in their Instances to his *Prussian* Majesty to enter into this Dispute, by which, in all Probability, the Scale must have turned either Way, according to his Pleasure; since it was very apparent, that if the Election of King *Stanislaus* had been immediately supported by a tolerable Force, the Affections of the *Poles* would have shewn themselves much more effectually than they did; and on the other hand, it is no less evident, that if the King of *Prussia* had declared absolutely on the other side, the Party for King *Stanislaus* could not have made any Resistance at all, but must have submitted immediately. But no Intreaties could prevail upon that wise Monarch to act on either side in this Dispute, by which, no doubt, he was a very considerable Gainer. It is true, that tho' he gave K. *Stanislaus* no Assistance in support of his Pretensions, yet after the Ruin of his Affairs, and the close Siege of the City of *Dantzick*, he suffered that Prince to take Shelter in his Dominions, where he was treated with all the Respect due to a crown'd Head; and with the Remittances he received from *France* kept up a great Court, and lived at a vast Expence, which was of considerable Use in that Part of his *Prussian* Majesty's Dominions. There were many People, who from their Attachment to the House of *Austria*, treated this Conduct of his as unworthy of a King, and inconsistent with his Obligations to the Emperor; but such were certainly too hasty, and had not sufficiently reflected, that the Obligations of a Prince to his Subjects are infinitely superior to those he contracts with his Allies; and that with respect to the Safety of his Dominions, and the true Interest of the Crown of *Prussia*, he was not at all bound to interfere farther than by good Offices in this Dispute; so that the Measures he took as a Sovereign and independent Prince were certainly right. As to the Engagements he was under, as Member of the Empire, they were so punctually complied with, that his Imperial Majesty had no Reason to complain. The same Method in respect to all other Affairs his Majesty of *Prussia* constantly took,

shewing

shewing himself alike prepared for War and inclined to Peace: for tho' he made his Troops his Delight, and led all his Days rather a Military than a Court Life, yet this was more with a View to save Expence, to keep his Troops in Motion, and to maintain strict Discipline, than with any Thoughts of distressing or disturbing his Neighbours. In the later Years of his Life the King was droppical, and in a very bad State of Health; so that he was frequently thought to be near his End, and yet recovered. At last he was carried off by a short Illness, on the 31st of May 1740, in the 52d Year of his Age; and tho' like other Princes, he had his Failings and Faults; among which the Love of Money, and draining it by various unpopular Methods out of the Purses of his Subjects was the chief; yet in respect to his great Regard for Justice, his prudent Economy, strict Frugality, and Easiness of Access, he was much commended; and with regard to the general Maxims of his Politicks, they are like to do more Credit to his Memory, than they acquired him Glory while living.

This Monarch espoused in his Father's Lifetime the Princess *Sophia Dorothea of Hanover*, Sister to his present *Britannick Majesty*, who was born the 16th of *March 1687*, and is now Queen Dowager of *Prussia*, by whom he left a numerous Issue; viz. *Charles-Frederick* his Successor, *William-Augustus Prince Royal of Prussia*, born *August 9th 1722*, who espoused the Princess *Louisa Amelia of Brunswick-Wolfenbuttle*, by whom he has a Son; *Frederick-Henry Prince of Prussia*, born *January 8th 1726*; *Augustus-Ferdinand Prince of Prussia*, born *May 23d 1730*; *Frederica-Augusta Princess Royal of Prussia*, born the *3d of July 1709*; and who on the *20th of November 1731*, espoused the Hereditary Prince of *Brandenburg Baireith*; *Frederica-Louisa Princess of Prussia*, born *September 28th 1714*, who on the *30th of May 1729*, espoused the Margrave of *Anspach*; *Dorothea Sophia Princess of Prussia*, born the *26th of January 1719*, and married the *10th of November 1734*, to the Margrave *Frederick-William of Schwed*; *Louisa-Ulrica Princess of Prussia*, born *April 24th 1720*, who on *July 17th, 1744*, married *Adolphus-Frederick Duke of Holstein-Eutien*, elected Successor to the Crown of *Sweden*; *Anna-Amelia Princess of Prussia*, born *November 9th, 1723*.

**CHARLES-FREDERICK**, the present King of *Prussia* and Elector of *Brandenburg*, was born *January 24th, 1712*, and consequently was in the *29th Year* of his Age when he mounted

mounted the Throne ; and in his Father's Lifetime espoused the Princess *Elizabeth-Christina of Brunswick-Wolfenbuttel*, born November 8th, 1715. He began his Reign with an Act of the greatest Generosity ; for whereas it was publickly known that his Marriage was a pure Act of Obedience to his Father, absolutely against his own Consent, and therefore never consummated, every body expected that his first Care would have been to have taken the Opinion of some of the Protestant Universities in *Germany*, in order to have got it dissolved : But when that Princess, in Company with the Queen-dowager, came to compliment him upon his Accession, he addressed her in the following Terms. *You are sensible, Madam, that your becoming Princess Royal was contrary to my Inclination ; but having observed the Amiability of your Behaviour, and the Regard that you have shewn for my Person, I find my self under a Necessity of making you suitable Returns ; and now therefore that I am a King, I acknowledge you for my Queen-Consort, and the lawful Partner of my Throne and Bed.* It is impossible to expres the Surprize and Joy of the whole Court upon this Declaration, a Declaration which every body desired, but no body expected ; and which gave the greatest Hopes of a Reign that opened with so extraordinary a Mark of Justice, Tenderness, and Generosity.

The very opening of this young Monarch's Govcrnment, drew the Attention of all *Europe*, and gave his Neighbours very just Ideas of what might be expected in the Progres of it. He had been but indifferently treated in his Father's Lifetime ; and there were many who dreaded his Resentments ; but he punished no body except the Counsellor *Eckard*, whom he ordered to depart his Dominions, because he had been a great Deviser of Taxes, and the principal Instrument of the late King in laying Burthens upon his Subjects ; so that in his Manner of treating him, the new Monarch shewed that he could avenge the Wrongs done to his People, tho' he was at the same Time patient under his own. He was no sooner adorned with the Crown, than he declared himself a Protector of Learning ; and by a Letter written with his own Hand invited the famous Mr. *Maupertuis* from *Paris*, to take upon him the Direction of the Academy of *Berlin* ; or, as the King himself elegantly expreffed it, to graft the Slips of true Science on the wild Stocks in the North. But I forget the proper Busines of this Article, while I pretend to draw the Picture of a Prince, whose great Qualities are so numerous, that they would require more Room than I have left, should I attempt their Description. I will content my self therefore

with a bare Detail of the principal Facts of his Reign, that I may keep within due Bounds, and reserve the rest for another Part of this Work, where they shall be treated more at large, and with greater Propriety, in as much as the present History of *Europe* cannot be compleatly written without giving at the same Time a copious Detail of what his *Prussian* Majesty has contrived and performed.

In the Account which has been given of his Father's Reign, it has been shewn, that tho' he took care to put his Army on a better Foot than any of his Predecessors, yet he was very far from being inclined to War, which probably arose from the Circumstances of the Affairs of *Europe* in his Time; but whatever his Motives were, most certain it is, that he was rather careful in ascertaining his Rights, than in asserting them, as appears from his suffering the Bishop and Prince of *Liege* to continue in the Possession of the Barony of *Herstall*, which had been yielded to the King as a Part of the Succession of the late King *William*, and offering to compromise his Dispute with that Prelate for 100,000 Florins, which however he could not obtain: But upon the new King's coming to the Possession of his Dominions, and going to receive the Homage of the Dutchy of *Cleves*, he demanded the same of the Inhabitants of *Herstall*, who positively refus'd it, alledging that they were, and had been always Subjects to the Prince of *Liege*. The King, to cut this Dispute short, sent a Body of his Forces into that Bishoprick, who took Possession of *Maseyk*, and who declared they had their Master's Orders to live at Discretion, till he had received Satisfaction for his Barony of *Herstall*. It was on the 14th of September 1740, that the *Prussian* Troops entered his Territories, upon which the Bishop of *Liege* published a long Manifesto, setting forth the great Injury that had been done to him, but confessing at the Close, that the Price set by the late King of *Prussia* was very moderate; and that he had offered to pay him Interest for that Sum at the Rate of Four *per Cent.* which was better than so much ready Money. He complained at the same Time to the Courts of *Vienna* and *Paris*; but while he was thus busy in drawing Memorials, and making Complaints, the *Prussian* Troops liv'd on at Discretion; so that at last he was forced to send two Deputies to *Berlin*, to put an End to this Dispute, who were obliged to consent that his *Prussian* Majesty should receive 200,000 Florins for his Pretensions upon *Herstall*; and the Money being paid on the 23d of October in the Evening, the *Prussian* Forces evacuated *Maseyk* the next Morning. Thus, according to his new Method, the King ended this Controversy without a Law-suit.

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It was not only with the Bishop of *Liege* that his Majesty had Disputes ; for about the same the Duke *de Chevreuse*, and the Marquis *de Neufchatel* set up their respective Claims to the Principality of *Neufchatel*, against what they were pleased to call the King of *Prussia*'s Ulurpation ; and the former sent an Advocate of the Parliament of *Paris*, the latter two Advocates of the Parliament of *Besancon*, to assert their Claims ; but the Governor of *Neufchatel* decided the Matter presently, by directing that they should quit the Principality in 24 Hours, on Pain of being treated as Criminals. This, however, was but a Prelude to the great Stroke of all, by which his Majesty added the rich and fruitful Country of *Silesia* to his Dominions ; which, however, has been the Occasion of the present general War ; and therefore the Reader will expect that we should be a little more particular in the Account of this Transaction. We have already shewn that the House of *Brandenburg* had a very fair Title to the Principality of *Jagendorf*, and other Territories in that Country, which the Emperor notwithstanding united to the Kingdom of *Bohemia* ; but as the Elector still kept up his Claim, and the House of *Austria* had great Need of his Assistance, it was found necessary to give him some Satisfaction ; and accordingly a Treaty was set on Foot at *Berlin* in 1686, whereby it was stipulated, that the Elector should renounce the Pretensions of his House to the Principalities of *Jagendorf*, *Lignitz*, *Brieg*, and *Wolau*, upon Condition that the Emperor should yield to the Elector the Territory of *Schwibus*. The Baron *de Frytag*, who managed this Negotiation for the Court of *Vienna*, with the Elector *Frederick II*, set on foot at the same time another clandestine Treaty with the Electoral Prince *Frederick*, who was afterwards *Frederick III*, Elector of *Brandenburg*, tho' he is generally called *Frederick I*, because he was the first King of *Prussia*. The Nature of this secret Negotiation was very dark ; for there were some Family Disputes, in which the Emperor threatned to take Part against the Prince, if, at the same Time his Father subscribed the Treaty before mentioned, he did not subscribe an Obligation to give up, as soon as it should be in his Power, the Territory of *Schwibus* for a small Sum of Money. Accordingly when he became Elector of *Brandenburg* the Money was offered, and the Territory demanded ; but all the Counsellors of the new Elector advised him not to part with it, as he was compelled to make this Agreement, which in its own Nature therefore was void ; but the Emperor *Leopold* insisting upon it, and threatening to use Force, he yielded up the Territory, but refused to confirm the Renunciation made by his Father

of his former Rights. Upon this Occasion he expressed himself to his Ministers in these Words : " I shall yield the Territory of *Schwibus*; it becomes me to be as good as my Word; I must and I will. As to prosecuting my Rights to *Silesia*, I leave that to the Care of my Posterity, whose Hands I cannot nor will not bind in the present Circumstances, when it is necessary for me to put up with the Injustice. If Providence and Time don't suffer the Thing to take another Turn, the only Way is to be quiet; but if God orders it otherwise, my Descendants will know, and see what they have to do."

Thus the Reader sees in few Words the Nature of the King of *Prussia*'s Claim; he represented both *Frederick II*, and *Frederick III*, consequently the Rights of both were in him; and as the House of *Austria* had taken away the Equivalent, he conceived he had a just Title to the Territories formerly in the Possession of his Family, *viz.* the Principality of *Jagerndorf*, and other Countries, of which he resolved immediately to take Possession. He had two Reasons for acting in this Manner, without any previous Declarations made to the Court of *Vienna*; the first was, that the Male Line of the House of *Austria* being extin<sup>t</sup>, and the Power of that Family thereby weakned, he thought this a favourable Opportunity of doing himself Justice; and that he should be wanting to himself and his Posterity, or Successors, if he neglected it. His second Reason was, that the Elector of *Bavaria* and the King of *Spain* forming Pretensions upon the Emperor's Succession, he was desirous of reconciling his View of doing himself Justice to the Inclination he had of assisting *Maria Theresa*, Queen of *Hungary*, in maintaining her Rights to her Father's Dominions, agreeable to the Pragmatic Sanction. At the same time therefore that he ordered his Troops to march into *Silesia*, which was in *December 1740*, he declared to the Courts of *Vienna*, that notwithstanding this Step he was ready to promote the Election of the Duke of *Lorrain* to the Imperial Dignity; that he was willing to advance the Queen of *Hungary* two Millions of Florins; and that he was ready to employ all his Forces in defending her Dominions against all her Competitors. But these Propositions were absolutely rejected, upon which a War ensued. It is to be observed, that in this Article I am stating the Claims, Pretensions, and Measures of his *Prussian* Majesty, as Matters of Fact, and am very far from taking upon me to decide whether the former were well or ill founded, and consequently whether the latter were right or wrong; but thus much I think I may be allowed to say, that if the Court of

*Vienna*

Vienna had accepted his Proposal, the War in *Germany* had been prevented, and the Empress Queen had not yielded more to the King of *Prussia* than he is possessed of at present, after all the Blood and Treasure that has been spent on both Sides in this fatal Quarrel.

His *Prussian* Majesty carried his Point in the first Instance, that is to say, he made himself Master of *Silesia* without much Opposition, and the *Austrians* having marched a great Army into that Country ; under the Command of Field-Marshal Count *Nieuperg*, in the Beginning of the next Spring his *Prussian* Majesty gave that Army Battle on the tenth of *April* 1741, at *Molwitz*, in which, tho' with great Effusion of Blood, he gained the Victory. In the succeeding Year having marched to the Assistance of his Allies the *French*, *Bavarians*, and *Saxons*, into *Bohemia*, after being basely deserted by them, he on the twenty-fourth of *May*, 1742, fought the famous Battle of *Czeßlaw*, in which he also claimed the Victory ; but both Parties being now weary of the War, a Treaty of Peace was negotiated between his Majesty on the one Part, and the Queen of *Hungary* on the other, which was concluded and signed on the eleventh of *June*, at *Breslau* in *Silesia* ; by which the greatest part of that Dutchy, and the whole County of *Glatz* were yielded to his Majesty. But this did not hinder him from entering into the League of *Franckfort*, in support of the Emperor *Charles VII*. in Consequence of which, he invaded *Bohemia*, and took the City of *Prague*, on the sixth of *September* 1744, which obliged Prince *Charles* of *Lorrain* to march from the *Rhine* to the *Elbe*, with the *Austrian* Army ; upon whose Approach, his *Prussian* Majesty retired with his Forces towards *Silesia*, but Prince *Charles* pressing hard upon him in his Retreat, a Battle ensued at *Friedberg* on the fourth of *June* 1745, in which his *Prussian* Majesty gained a clear and compleat Victory. It was believed that this Action would have made an End of the War ; but the *Austrians*, who were now joined by the *Saxons*, and had formed great Views of distressing the King of *Prussia*, continued their Military Operations with the utmost Vigour ; and on the thirtieth of *September*, by a forced March, surprized that Prince near *Studentz*, and plundered his Baggage ; but by the great Military Skill and inimitable Prudence of the King, his Troops were soon brought into order, the Battle renewed, and a compleat Victory gained. Yet still the *Austrians* persisted in continuing the War, presuming on the March of a great Body of *Russian* Auxiliaries, which it was supposed would have marched through *Poland* into his Territories. But his *Prussian* Majesty took Advantage of the Season, and while

while his Enemies were pleasing themselves with the Hopes of invading and ruining his Country, the old Prince of *Anhalt Dessaу* with a *Prussian* Army entered theirs. The King of *Poland* was obliged to abandon his Hereditary Dominions, and to retire to the Frontiers of *Bohemia* for Safety. *Leipzick* opened her Gates to the Conqueror, and though a numerous Army of *Saxons* and *Austrians* interposed to preserve *Dresden*, yet on the fourth Day of December 1745, they were totally defeated by the Prince of *Anhalt Dessaу*, with half their Number of *Prussian* Troops. The King entered *Dresden* in Triumph, and having overcome all his Enemies, on the fourteenth of the same Month overcame his Passions and Resentment, and in the full Warmth of Victory gave them a fair and equitable Peace. By which *Silesia* was again yielded to him; the *Saxons* gave him one Million of Crowns for the Expence of the War; his Majesty acknowledged the Emperor, guaranty'd the Dominions of the Empress Queen, and included his Ally the Elector Palatine in the same Treaty, which was negotiated under the Mediation of his *Britannick* Majesty, and once more settled the Tranquility of *Germany*.

The Interests of this Monarch, if they were to be considered at large, would require a considerable Treatise; but we shall reduce them into a narrow Compass, with as much Perspicuity as we can. In Quality of King of *Prussia*, he is one of the greatest Powers in the North; and therefore it is his Interest to see the Balance of Power in that Part of *Europe* kept exactly even; with this View, there is no doubt, that he will have a constant Eye to the Measures pursued by *Sweden* and *Denmark*, pay still more Attention to the Behaviour of *Poland*, and be most assiduously watchful of the increasing Power of *Russia*. Upon his Diligence and Success in those Points, the Security, Welfare and Grandeur of his own State will depend. How far it is possible to manage all these with such Address as to draw some Advantages from several of those Powers, and to be in no Danger from any of them, may best be known by considering the Practice of the present King, who has actually carried this Scheme into Execution in the most difficult Conjunction. The late Revolution in *Russia* changed the whole System of his Affairs with respect to that Empire; instead of a close Conjunction, it brought about a Division of Interests, and from an intimate Union, created a distant Civility intermixed with some Degrees of Jealousy, so much harder to be removed because they were natural, derived from his close Alliance with the excluded Family. The Power of *Russia* also was vastly increased. By the Election of the Successor of the Crown of *Sweden*, that Kingdom came

in some measure to depend upon her: *Denmark* was aw'd by her superior Force, and by the old Differences between that Royal Family and the House of *Holstein*; while *Poland* was firmly tied, as well by the Interest of the reigning Prince, as by a long and uninterrupted Alliance. But the admirable Policy of the *Prussian* has got the better of all these Connections. By marrying his Sister to the Successor of *Sweden*, he gain'd an Interest in that Country, which is daily increasing. *Denmark* is bound to live upon good Terms with him as a Neighbour, at the same time that he needs his Assistance as an Ally. He has always kept a good Correspondence with the Republick; and notwithstanding their late Quarrel, has now a good Correspondence, with the King of *Poland*, as I dare prophesy will shortly appear; so that he has exactly modelled the *North* to his Mind: And notwithstanding the vast Power of *Russia* has nothing to fear from her Jealousy, and still less to apprehend from her Influence; which easy Situation of his on this Side, is entirely owing to his own great Parts as a Politician; and must, to every competent Judge, raise his Character, in that respect, to the greatest Height.

As a Prince of the Empire, he plainly considers himself as the Guardian of the *Germanick* Constitution; and as he has all Things to hope, and nothing to dread from the Independency of all the Members of the Empire, he has very wisely shewn as warm and steady a Concern for their Rights as for his own. At the very Beginning of his Reign he compromised the Disputes which had so long subsisted between his Family and the Elector *Palatine*, upon very equal and moderate Terms; he embraced the Friendship of the House of *Bavaria* when it was necessary to him; and he gave the highest Proofs of his Fidelity to the Interests of that Family when they stood in the greatest Need of his Friendship. In a Word, he has lost no Ally in the Empire, but has gain'd many; he has restored the Credit of the Diet of *Ratisbon*, by giving Power to the Princes of the Empire, who send their Ministers thither, to speak their true Sentiments, and explain themselves freely, instead of submitting implicitly to the Imperial Decrees, as they were wont to do. In short, he has so conducted his Affairs, as to be universally considered as a *German Patriot*; that is, as one resolved to maintain the Essence of the *Germanick* Constitution, and to preserve the Liberty of its Members from all interior Influence, as well as Foreign Subjection.

As one of the principal Powers of *Europe*, the present King of *Prussia* seems to have formed to himself a Design of establishing

blishing a more effectual Balance than has been hitherto known, in Virtue of the Increase of his own Dominions, which have put it into his Hands. This Point was never sufficiently considered by any of our Politicians, or to speak plainly, has never been considered by them at all. The Situation of *France* enabled her formerly to preserve the Balance against the House of *Austria*; the Situation of his *Sardinian* Majesty's Dominions, enables him to hold the Balance of *Italy*, and to keep it even between the Houses of *Austria* and *Bourbon*; but with respect to the King of *Prussia*, he has three Balances in his Hands, that of the North, that of *Germany*, and the great Balance of Power against *France*. It is very true, that in the present War, he has acted in Confederacy with *France*, but, as we have shewn before, this was absolutely against his Will. If the Court of *Vienna* and the Allies of that Court had not considered his Expedition into *Silesia*, as an Infraction of the Pragmatick Sanction, in which Light he never regarded it himself, nor thought it would be regarded by others; he had certainly taken the contrary Side, as having no Reason to be a Friend to *France* longer than he has the House of *Austria* for an Enemy. He has shewn in his last Treaty with the King of *Poland*, Elector of *Saxony*, a true Zeal for the Protestant Religion, and without Doubt it is his Interest to put himself at the Head of the Protestants in *Germany*; and he is too clear-sighted a Prince not to see this. Whenever therefore a general Peace is made, and he finds himself thereby released from those Connections, which however unnatural, were once certainly necessary to him; there is no Question to be made, that he will recur to those Sentiments with which we wish to see him inspired. He will then be much greater than he appears at present, for he will be Arbiter of the North, the firm Ally and Support of the House of *Austria*, the great Patriot of *Germany*, and the powerful Protector of the *Dutch Republick*. In a Word, in Conjunction with the Emperor, the Maritime Powers, and the King of *Sardinia*, he will be able to set Bounds to the Ambition of the House of *Bourbon*, to preserve the Independency, and secure the Tranquillity of *Europe*, the highest and most glorious Views, which a Hero and a Politian can have, and which therefore must be certainly his.

END of NUMB. XV.